



Milton Economic Development **Sustainability Subcommittee**
Meeting Agenda – September 27, 2016 (**Tuesday**)
2nd Floor – Milton Public Library – 5:30 PM
Milton, DE 19968

1. Call Meeting to order: 5:35 PM
2. Roll call of members

Members in attendance:

Michela Coffaro
Lou Colon
Shannon Maner

Guests:

Alex Donnan (EDC)
Michael Clark (EDC)
Lisa Sumstine (Milton Chamber of Commerce)

3. Corrections/ Approval of Agenda: Approved
4. Approval of minutes of the 8/23/2016 meeting: Approved
5. Guest Speaker: Diane Laird, Delaware Department of Economic Development (DEDO)
6. Announcements: Thanks to volunteers at the Bargains on the Broadkill event August 27th!
7. Old business
 - Shannon Maner accepted role as new secretary of the Sustainability Committee.
 - Michela shared that Pam Batton assistant director of the library has agreed to provide and host related speakers and handle the details. Who will pay to advertise these events?
 - The Sustainability Committee will be getting its own copy of the "In Transition" DVD to be used at events. (Michela Coffaro)
 - Michela mentioned several topics to Woman's Club members and left name cards. No response.
 - Old business not discussed: Recycling tonnage (John King), magnets (Bob Howard), PR representative from haulers, recycling cans in Milton park (Shannon Maner), Zika virus (Roberta Hagan), Stem Expo (David Lafazia), Recruit speakers

8. New Business

Topics of Diane's discussion:

New Rural Community Development Initiative grant received:

- 2 year grant running 3 fiscal years.
- \$180,000 project \$80,000 USDA, DEDO match \$80,000 local government match \$750 to bring down DEDO match.
- There are 10 recipient towns; Milton is eligible for funding based on its population and median household income.
- Diane suggested we send a representative(s) to the National Main Street Conference in Pittsburgh, PA May 2017; they can provide up to \$750 if Milton can match DEDO funds (Milton committed \$750 per attendee).
- Diane recommended a 1 year assessment; review-develop a strategic plan for downtown; offered access to Rick Farrell consultant to help name 3 revitalization goals for each of 3 years.

Rural Business Mentoring Program (part of USDA grant)

- 20-25 active downtown members invited to mentor training on topic areas.
- Small business owners may request assistance on these topics; consultations are free of charge.
- Mentors will receive \$100 dollars per visit for 4-5 hours of work.
- We can attend or present at events sponsored as a part of this endeavor.

Other points from Diane

- DEDO is offering free e-commerce training at DTCC Terry Campus in Dover, DE on October 11 & 12 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
 - We will be added to DEDO mailing list so the Sustainability Committee can be a part of the dialogue.
 - "What would we do if we had grant funds?" There are limited funds but we could apply for training grants, or equipment.
 - Diane to send new Main Street LOGO to add to Milton's website.
 - Should Milton set up its own Economic Development/ Sustainability Committee non-profit, or continue to use the Milton Community Foundation as its conduit for securing grant funds?
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- Shannon spoke about Universal Recycling Regulation workshop for the commercial sector she will submit notes at the next meeting.
 - Shannon mentioned DENREC website for educational materials at events
 - Michela met with the owners of the Milton Theater who would consider hosting related movies/ presentations/demonstrations.
 - Michela suggested asking the theater to host a speaker to come educate about new recycling regulation Shannon spoke about. Invite and educate home-owners, and people in commercial sector (schools, businesses, etc.).

- Lou suggested we set aside time/date to develop work plans for the Action Plans Ideas we want to pursue.

Action Plan Ideas:

- Meet with Milton Community Foundation
- Support Roberta Hagan with creating the “Little Library” outside her house just north of the Milton library
- Façade Improvement Program (Lisa Sumstine)
- Training(s) for potential Business Mentors
- Develop a “VISION” and identity for Milton (Alex Donnan)
- How do/would we support a sustainable community?
- Offer energy audits to homes and businesses

Misc.

- 9/28/16 Dedication of Governors’ Walk at 5 PM; Downtown Milton.
- Cotton bags given to Milton library (Michela Coffaro)

9. The next meeting – Tuesday October 25, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the library.

10. Adjournment: 7:00 PM